ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The position of an object, which may be a user's finger, along a body is sensed capacitively. A measurement circuit meters the simultaneous injection of electrical charge into the two ends of the body, which may be shaped as a straight line or as a curve. A computing device computes the ratio of the relative changes in the amount of charge injected into each end of the element. The result of this computation is a one dimensional coordinate number plus a detection state indication, both of which can be fed to another functional element, such as an appliance controller, which interprets the coordinate and detection state as a command or measurement.